

SPACE FLORIDA

FLORIDA:

THE Place for Unmanned Aerial Systems

Florida – A Perfect Fit for the FAA UAS Test Site Designation

Florida offers an ideal location for the FAA's efforts in incorporating UAS technology into U.S. airspace. These advantages include an established, vast network of controlled airspace, simulation and research centers, unique FAA-approved next-generation systems, a skilled workforce, and a university network that offers curricula centered around UAS technology.

Why Florida is focused on UAS Technologies

According to the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the market for UAS technology could be potentially worth \$89 billion over the next decade. Beyond the economic impact, however, these vehicles have the potential to create significant benefit for our state and our nation – a point that is overshadowed lately in media reports by the association of the word "drone" with privacy intrusion and war.

What are some of the positive applications for UAS technology?

There are numerous positive applications for UAS utilization outside of battlefield efforts, including (but not limited to): law enforcement, border patrol, search and rescue, disaster relief, crop monitoring, brush fire detection and analysis of weather patterns. Florida wants to position itself as a leader in these areas.

What safety/privacy precautions will Florida undertake if selected?

The FAA's test site solicitation identifies locations where policy, concepts and technology can all be developed, tested and modified together to achieve the level of comfort necessary to safely allow the introduction of UAS technology into any U.S. airspace. Florida proposes to determine a strategy to protect civil liberties while developing a critical technology that will benefit mankind.

What is the status of the FAA test site designation process?

On Feb. 14, the Federal Aviation Administration announced its intent to develop six UAS research and test sites around the country, and it has until September 2015 to assimilate commercial unmanned systems into our nation's skies. Space Florida is leading the bid to designate Florida as one of the six UAS test sites.

Space Florida submitted a solicitation response May 6, 2013. Selection will occur following FAA site verification visits.



May 11, 2014

Live Florida UAS Demonstration
Kennedy Space Center, Exploration Park
Prior to 2014 AUVSI Conference
www.spaceflorida.gov/auvsi2014

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Florida's statewide capabilities tied to UAS initiatives includes ranges and air space, simulation and research centers, unique FAA approved next generation systems, university curriculums and industry partners.

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